

## REPORT OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE BRETHREN CHURCHES.

HELD AT ASHLAND, OHIO. AUG. 25-29, 1894.  
FIRST SESSION, SATURDAY EVE. AUG. 25.

The Conference convened in the College chapel at the appointed time and was opened by song, Scripture lesson and prayer. These devotional services were conducted by Bro. S. J. Harrison. After these services chairman J. M. Tombaugh delivered the annual sermon. Text: Hebrews, Chapter iv, 1. Theme: The Christian's Rest. The chair now appointed J. H. Knepper, Simon Mikesell and J. L. Gillen to constitute the committee on Credentials and Enrollment.

The committee immediately convened and while preparing a partial report the conference joined in singing several songs. After a partial report of the committee on Enrollment the following committee on permanent organization was appointed by the delegates of the respective districts.

Illiokota District, J. O. Talley. Kanemorado, L. A. Hazlett. Indiana, J. A. Miller. Ohio, Simon Mikesell. Penn., D. J. Bole. Va., W. Va. and Md., B. C. Moomaw.

The following committee on Rules was appointed by the chair, J. H. Knepper:

J. Allen Miller, J. O. Talley, J. M. Tombaugh.

The committee on Organization made the following report:

Chairman, J. H. Knepper; Vice Chairman, Z. T. Livengood; Secretary, J. A. Miller; Asst. Secretary, Martin Shively; Finance Committee, John Keim, Chairman and Treasurer, Simon Mikesell, A. D. Gnagey.

On Sunday, Aug. 26th, the conference assembled in a Sunday school session with the Ashland city Brethren Sunday school at 9 A. M. After the Sunday school session Sister Mary M. Sterling preached in the College chapel. In the morning Bro. J. M. Tombaugh preached in M. E. church, Bro. A. D. Gnagey in the Lutheran church, Bro. J. O. Talley in the Disciple church, Bro. I. D. Bowman in the Evangelical church, Bro. J. Allen Miller in the U. B. church.

A meeting of the King's Children was held at 3 P. M. led by J. O. Talley. In the evening Christian Forney preached in the College chapel and J. D. McFaden preached at a union service of the city churches held at the Presbyterian church and I. D. Bowman in the U. B. church.

SECOND SESSION, MONDAY MORNING, AUG. 27.

Chairman J. H. Knepper called the Conference to order at 8:30. Devotional services conducted by L. A. Hazlett. A few very appropriate remarks were made by Chairman Knepper, after which the conference proceeded to the regular business of the session. The chair appointed the following committees: On Resolutions:

J. D. McFaden, D. J. Bole, Martin Shively.

On Queries—

B. C. Moomaw, Laura E. N. Grossnickle, C. F. Yoder.

The committee on Rules submitted the following report:

1. All members of the Brethren church present at the conference, shall be entitled to participate in the discussions but only the delegates, bearing credentials from their respective churches, shall be entitled to vote.

2. No speaker shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same question except by permission of the conference.

3. No speech shall exceed ten minutes except by permission of conference.

4. No one shall be allowed to speak until he has addressed the chair and has been recognized.

5. Any speaker using personalities shall immediately be called to order by the chairman.

6. Each state delegation shall sit in a body.

7. Every resolution shall be reduced to writing. J. Allen Miller, J. O. Talley, J. M. Tombaugh, Committee.

The forgoing report was adopted. It was by motion decided that Bro. J. E. Roop, chairman of the National Mission Board, be admitted into this Conference as a voting delegate. The following motion was made and adopted:

*Resolved*, That the question of collections from delegates, for expenses of conference be referred to the Finance Committee with instructions to report as soon as possible, on expenses already incurred and yet to be incurred.

The committee on World's Fair was called for and J. D. McFaden reported as follows:

After attending our church congress in Chicago, and reading a paper on "Channels of usefulness in the Brethren church," and scattering many thousands of pages of tracts, I then went, after much tribulation, before the Parliament of Religions and placed on record, the fact that the Brethren church is an anti-creed church, having the Gospel Alone as its rule and guide.

Bro. McFaden's report was adopted. Bro. R. Z. Replogle, also of the World's Fair committee, made report of the receipts and expenditures as follows:

Inasmuch as there is an unexpended balance of World's Fair fund of about \$29.00 and inasmuch as Brother J. B. Wampler, who was the largest individual contributor to said fund, gave it with the expressed desire to have tracts translated into the Swedish language, now desires to have the amount of his contributions—\$8.77, transferred to the Brethren Book and Tract Committee of Meyersdale, for the accomplishment of that end, I suggest that the same be granted, and that the remainder be given to the National Missionary Society to be used for missionary work in the city of Chicago. Others of the committee agreeing in this suggestion. Your servant,

R. Z. REPROGLE.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That conference extend its thanks to Bro. McFaden for his excellent work in representing the Brethren church in the World's Fair Parliament of Religions, and heartily congratulates him upon the successful execution of his mission.

The following resolution was introduced and carried:

*Resolved*, That the funds in the hands of Bro. Replogle be turned over to the Finance Committee of this conference, to defray the expenses of Bro. McFaden on the World's Fair mission, with the exception of \$8.77, received from Bro. J. B. Wampler, which is to be returned to him for the special purpose for which it was given.

At this juncture, the publishing interests were made the order of the day for Tuesday A. M. instead of Wednesday A. M. as programed.

### THIRD SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Martin Shively by reading a part of St. John 15th chapter, followed by prayer.

Under the head of unfinished business, the Finance Committee submitted the following:—

Expenses of cleaning college, \$33.17. Tracts furnished by Book and Tract committee to World's Fair committee \$7.20.

These claims were allowed by the convention and a resolution assessing each delegate the sum of \$1.00 to meet expenses of the conference, was introduced and adopted.

The report of the National Mission Board was made by Dr. Roop, in which he stated that his committee had held itself in readiness to work, but that no assistance had been offered. His report was adopted, and the question of National Mission work was referred to the Committee on Resolutions which reported on the matter as follows:—

*Resolved*, That the church be requested to pay into the treasury of the National Mission Board, an average of ten cents per member, each year, one-half, or five cents per member to be paid on or before Dec. 1, 1894, the balance to be paid on or before June 1, 1895, the secretary of the Board being required to make a quarterly report through the EVANGELIST of all money received.

J. D. McFaden, D. J. Bole, Martin Shively.

The report of the National organization of King's Children, was made by J. O. Talley as follows:—

The growth has been from about 250 in 1893 to about 2000 in 1894, which we consider a good showing. The society is out of debt and will show a substantial fund in its treasury soon, and has made a good spiritual record, during the past year in the churches where it has been organized.

A motion to make the report of the Book and Tract committee the order of the day, was carried and the following report was submitted by its chairman, A. D. Gnagey:

Money due the Committee for Mdse (accts.)		\$326.48.
Money in Bank		\$120.00.
Stock on hand		\$360.00.
Total		\$806.48.
Indebtedness, for printing Mdse	\$493.00.	
For Editor's work	\$200.00.	
Total	\$693.00.	\$693.00.
Balance		\$113.48.

Bro. J. D. McFaden was elected as member of National Mission Board, to fill a vacancy caused by resignation.

A resolution was presented as follows, and was also adopted:—